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and fares that could be arrived at. It often happens when individuals' accusations are made that the class welcome thing that could be offered to those who make them is an opportunity to prove them. We do not not say that the present is precisely a case in point, but it looks exceedingly like that. At all events, a committee of inquiry has been appointed.

appointed to deal with the charges in the question. Although the opposition did not ask for that, they could not very well object to it. The opponents of the bill were practically requested to substantiate the statements which they had submitted to the Legislative Council as reasons against the passing of the bill. On the first reading of the bill Mr. Whitehead described the Po Leung Ku

pressed the opinion that, if legal action were given to the Society, it would be dangerous in the extreme, and would ultimately be found to be injurious to trade and shipping and detrimental to the true interests of the colony. When the bill next came before the Council the Governor, stated that owing to Mr. Whitehead's objections, backed up by those of the senior unofficial members and certain very serious charges which had been made against the operations of the Society, he had come to the conclusion that the bill ought to be referred to a special committee of the Council, consisting of the Registrar General, Dr. Ho Kai, Mr. Chater, Mr. Whitehead and the Acting

two official members. In that committee the Government, the Po Le Kuk, and the public were just in placing every confidence. If opposition to the bill rested on grounds worthy of consideration committee might be trusted to certain that these grounds were. are now told, however, by Mr W head, who apparently considers him the spokesman of the public in re- to the matter that the committee

will not be considered satisfactory to the public, because it is to be pressed over by the Registrar General. Whitehead's arguments in support of this surprising proposition amount to this and nothing more—that the Registrar General has a high appreciation of the services which the Loong Kuk renders to the colony and is strongly impressed with the belief that these services will be

placed on the footing proposed in the bill. Curiously enough, the very same which, in the opinion of William Robinson, make the Regent General the proper person to put over the committee's proceedings put forward by Mr Whitehead grounds on which 'the public' as to his occupying that position. Whitehead admits that the Regent General's official position and expectedly render him most conspicuous and discreditable.

inquiry, but he considers the  
the Registrar General is the  
0.75 most interested in carrying a free  
and impartial inquiry to the  
1.00 strongest possible argument against  
presiding over that free, full  
1.10 impartial inquiry which he is  
the most capable of assisting and  
ing." It would be difficult to go  
in the way of paradox than this  
0.75 Registrar General is the only one  
of the Legislative Council who is  
unusually well acquainted with  
1.00 Dr. H. S. Gurney, who thoroughly  
understands the working of the  
1.10 P. & K. and the various points of  
discussion with it which are touched  
the new bill. There is no one  
1.00 colony who has had his experience  
conducting investigations of  
0.40 those that will require to be  
of this case, which involves the difficult  
0.60 delicate task of extracting from  
impartial evidence that is in the

Government service for the Chinese community interested in respect. Yet, apparently for a reason that has to be a member of the Chamber of Commerce is opposed to the Government on the authority of the gentleman that "it will not be easy to the public" if Mr. Stewart presides over what will be the intentions and purposes, a public (inasmuch as his proceedings reported in full by a stenographer published afterwards), in connection with a subject in which he has turned than anybody else, with propriety be named as the forum; an inquiry in regard to Mr. Whitehead himself, express the slightest doubt of President's desire and ability to it with absolute fairness and Mr. Whitehead, in his matter something which at least might appearance of "funding" his contention, which was, the Government, which was, the Government, as implying that the gentleman General had made use of his official position in the inducing Chinese to subscribe to Leung Kik funds and was a case that, in a subsequent letter to the Colonial Secretary he had been solicited to convey such a What Mr. Whitehead appeared

posed of by the Colonial Secretary says:—“Assuming, as is probable, though I have no information on the point, that the General has long been of opinion for various reasons it was desirable funds should be subscribed for the purpose of the Society, and that he expressed his opinion to o-

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## Mails.

**NORDDEUTSCHER LLOYD.**  
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J. S. VAN BUREN,  
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